Withdrawal of facilities to ex-employees of ONGC

2477. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the medical facilities enjoyed by the ex-employees and their spouses so far have been restricted by ONGC with an intention to curtail expenditures and to make more profits;

(b) if so, whether it is not an anti-employee stance; and

(c) whether Government would review it and ask the ONGC to revise their decision to help its cx-cmployccs and their spouses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

Exploration of CBM in Jharkhand

2478. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government expect an investment of around Rs. 270 crores for the exploration and production of coal bed methane in the five blocks awarded to the ONGC-IOC combine;

(b) if so, whether the ONGC-IOC have plans for joint venture of investing Rs. 70 crorc in Bokaro and Rs. 39 crorc in the North Karanpura blocks in Jharkhand;

(c) whether Government have sanctioned six new pilot projects for the production of gasohol mixture of 5 per cent cthanol and petrol;

(d) if so, the details of these projects; and

(e) the name of the places where these will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) In the first offer of blocks under Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy, Government has awarded two blocks namely North Karanpura (NK-CBM-2001/1) and Bokaro (BK-CMB-2001/)